

## **Great Swamp Watershed Association**

The Passaic River WATERKEEPER \* ALLIANCE Affiliate P.O. Box 300 • New Vernon, NJ 07976 (973) 538-3500 • GreatSwamp.org

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Delivered via Electronic and Regular Mail

Ms. Pat Seppi
Community Involvement Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, R2
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007-1866
seppi.pag@epa.gov

RE: Rolling Knolls Landfill Superfund Site (EPA ID: NJD980505192) Request for Technical Assistance Grant (TAG)

Dear Ms. Seppi:

Great Swamp Watershed Association (GSWA) is a 501(c)(3) and has been advocating for the local environment of the Great Swamp Watershed for almost 40 years. Great Swamp Watershed Association is dedicated to protecting and improving the water resources of the Passaic River region, from the Great Swamp headwaters to Newark Bay, for present and future generations. Through education, advocacy, science, land preservation, and stewardship, in collaboration with partners, we work to instill our communities with an awareness of water's effect on health and the beauty of the environment, from source to sea. Accordingly, we would like to take an active role in the remediation efforts at Rolling Knolls. The Feasibility Study and proposed cleanup plan are due to be released shortly and it is important for the community to be well informed and supportive of the ultimate remedy selected.

Rolling Knolls (EPA ID: NJD980505192) Landfill located in Green Village, Chatham, New Jersey consists of 170 acres of which approximately 30 acres is on the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge (GSNWR) and this parcel is designated as a Wilderness Area. There are approximately 140 acres with up to 18 feet of municipal landfill, 30 acres with surface debris and approximately 3 acres of industrial waste. The Principle Responsible Parties (PRP) include GSNWR. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FSW) has provided their recommendations on the handling of the portion that is federal land which has an added obligation to "ensure that the biological integrity, diversity and environmental health of the System are maintained for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans."





GSWA recently facilitated the creation of the Rolling Knolls Community Advisory Group (CAG). The CAG adopted the following mission statement: The mission of the Rolling Knolls Community Advisory Group is to facilitate community stakeholder participation in the Superfund cleanup process and planning for the site's future use, and to ensure all cleanup is adequately protective of human health and the environment and provides ecological revitalization.

GSWA requests a Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) in the amount of \$50,000 for a Technical Advisor to work with GSWA and the CAG to review documents such as, but not limited to, the Remedial Investigation, Feasibility Study, Proposed Clean-up Plan, Remedial Design, and additional documents as they become available, and to share the information with the community. The technical advisor will be able to analyze complex environmental issues and explain them in more understandable terms to enable broader community involvement.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Best<sub>r</sub>egards,

Sally S. Rubin

**Executive Director** 

Cc: Sophia Rini via E-mail Shereen Kandil via E-mail